

Australian Bureau of Statistics

1367.2 - State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Dec 2008

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 20/02/2009

Summary

Contents

CONTENTS

Expanded Contents



State Comparison

Includes: Summary of Statistical Indicators



Population

Includes: Estimated Resident Population



Includes: Vital Statistics, Life Expectancy at Birth, Public Hospital Admission and Emergency Patients, Timeliness of Elective Surgery



Work and Income

Includes: Labour force survey sample size reduction, Civilian labour force by region, Employed Persons by Industry, Employed Persons by Occupation, Part-time Workers, Duration of Unemployment, Estimates of Unemployment Rate, Average Weekly Earnings, Taxable Income



State Final Demand

Includes: State Final Demand



Price Indexes

Includes: Consumer Price Index, House Price Indexes



Construction

Includes: Building Approvals, Engineering Construction Activity



Tourism

Includes: Tourist Accommodation



<u>Agriculture</u>

Includes: Livestock Slaughtering and Meat Production



Includes: Balance of Trade, Trade by Commodity, Major Trading Partners

Environment

Includes: Air quality, Water Resources

In this issue

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER) March 2009 Release Date 14 May 2009

NOTE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, provides a summary of statistical information for Victoria at the State and/or regional level. Included in each chapter is commentary on statistical highlights which provides analysis and graphs on selected indicators. A list of all previous feature articles published is contained in the Appendix 2 of the PDF version of the publication.

The statistics presented in this issue are the latest available as at 28 January 2009.

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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, is released on a quarterly basis with chapters updated when new data are available.

A new chapter in this issue is Health. The chapter on Crime will be updated for the next release in May 2009. Three tables have been added to the Work and Income chapter: Employed persons, by occupation (ANZSCO) and Major Statistical Region, Average weekly earnings of employees, by sex, Victoria: all series and Mean taxable income, by Local Government Area 2005-06.

Users are advised that small area estimates presented in this publication should be used with care.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Sophie Vassiliou on Melbourne (03) 9615 7442.

SUMMARY COMMENTARY

About this Release

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about the whole of Victoria. Data is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

Most chapters contain a mix of tables, charts and commentary, to provide a basic analysis of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. Data is presented for varying geographic classifications, including, Victoria; Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria; down to Local Government Area for some series. The aim of the publication is to provide a picture of the situation of Victoria and enable comparison, both over time and between regions.

Core data, such as Estimated Resident Population, State Final Demand, Labour Force Statistics, Price Indexes, Building Approvals, Air Quality, and Water Storage Volumes is complemented by periodic annual data including the Condition of VicRoads Network, Recorded Crime Offences, Life Expectancy at Birth, Government Owned Housing Stock and others.

As the information is sourced from a wide variety of collections, care needs to be taken when analysing the data as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage may differ from table to table. Advice is provided in the publication on such matters.

Expanded Contents

CONTENTS

State Comparison

Summary of Statistical Indicators

Population

Estimated Resident Population

Health

Vital Statistics

Life Expectancy at Birth

Work and Income

Labour force survey sample size reduction

Civilian Labour Force by Region

Employed Persons by Industry

Employed Persons by Occupation

Part-time Workers

Duration of Unemployment

Average Weekly Earnings

Taxable Income

State Final Demand

State Final Demand

Price Indexes

Consumer Price Index

House Price Indexes

Construction

Building Approvals

Engineering Construction Activity

Tourism

Tourist Accommodation

Agriculture

Livestock Slaughtering and Meat Production

Trade

Balance of Trade

Trade by Commodity

Major Trading Partners

Environment

Air quality

Water Resources

State Comparison

Contents >> State Comparison



STATE COMPARISON

This section contains the following subsection : Summary of Statistical Indicators

Previous Page Next Page

Population

Contents >> Population



This section contains the following subsection : Estimated Resident Population

Previous Page Next Page

Health

Contents >> Health



This section contains the following subsection : Vital Statistics Life Expectancy at Birth

Previous Page Next Page

Work and Income

Contents >> Work and Income



WORK AND INCOME

This section contains the following subsection:

Labour force survey sample size reduction
Civilian Labour Force by Region
Employed Persons by Industry
Employed Persons by Occupation
Part-time Workers
Duration of Unemployment

Average Weekly Earnings

Taxable Income

Previous Page Next Page

State Final Demand

Contents >> State Final Demand



This section contains the following subsection : State Final Demand

Previous Page Next Page

Price Indexes

Contents >> Price Indexes



This section contains the following subsection : Consumer Price Index House Price Indexes

Previous Page Next Page

Construction

Contents >> Construction



CONSTRUCTION

This section contains the following subsection :
Building Approvals
Engineering Construction Activity

Previous Page Next Page

Tourism

Contents >> Tourism



TOURISM

This section contains the following subsection : Tourist Accommodation

Previous Page Next Page

Agriculture



This section contains the following subsection : Livestock Slaughtering and Meat Production

Previous Page Next Page

Trade

Contents >> Trade



This section contains the following subsection :
Balance of Trade
Trade by Commodity
Major Trading Partners

Previous Page Next Page

Environment

Contents >> Environment



This section contains the following subsection :
Air quality
Water Resources

Previous Page Next Page

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

The quarterly publication contains data from several ABS publication as well as from non-ABS sources. Explanatory Notes in the form found in other ABS publications are not included in **State and Regional Indicators**, **Victoria**. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Birth, Australia (cat. no. 3301.0)

Death, Australia (cat. no. 3302.0)

Department of Human Services, Victoria

Your Hospital Report, Department of Human Services

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)

Australian Taxation Office

Australian National Accounts: Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0)

Engineering Construction Activity (cat. no. 8762.0)

Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Victoria (cat. no. 8635.2.55.001)

Livestock Products, Australia (cat. no. 7215.0)

International Trade in Good and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

Environment Protection Authority, Victoria

Department of Primary Industries

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Chain volume measures

Annually-reweighted chain Laspeyres volume price indexes referenced to the current price values in a chosen reference year (i.e. the year when the quarterly chain volume measures sum to the current price annual values). Chain Laspeyres volume measures are compiled by linking together (compounding) movements in volumes, calculated using the average prices of the previous financial year, and applying the compounded movements to the current price estimates of the reference year.

Generally, chain volume measures are not additive. In other words, component chain volume measures do not sum to a total in the way original current price components do. In order to minimize the impact of this property, the ABS uses the latest base year as the reference year. By adopting this approach, additivity exists for the period following the reference year and non-additivity is relatively small for the years immediately preceding. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates, although some revision to recent growth rates can be expected because of the introduction of a more recent base year (and revisions to the current price estimates underlying the chain volume measures).

Deficit and surplus

A deficit occurs when the sum of all debit entries exceeds the sum of all credit entries, and a surplus occurs when the sum of all credit entries exceeds the sum of all debit entries. The term deficit (or surplus) can therefore be used in relation to various balances, e.g. balance of trade.

Duration of unemployment

The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

• worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or

business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers);

- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers);
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement;
 - on strike or locked out;
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job;
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Particles as PM₁₀

Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less.

Photochemical oxidants and ozone

'Photochemical oxidants' is the technical term for the type of smog found in Australian cities during the warmer months of the year. This type of smog can be invisible or it can appear as a whitish haze.

Photochemical oxidants are formed when sunlight falls on a mixture of chemicals in the air. Ozone is one of the main photochemical oxidants. Other chemicals such as formaldehyde are also found and, like ozone, have adverse health effects. Environment agencies measure the level of ozone because it indicates the total amount of photochemical oxidants in the air. Cities that have abundant sunshine over periods of time, together with moderate winds and high temperatures, are most likely to experience high levels of photochemical oxidants.

Ozone is a gas that is formed when nitrogen oxides react with a group of air pollutants known as 'reactive organic substances' in the presence of sunlight. The chemicals that react to form ozone come from sources such as: motor vehicle exhaust, oil refining, printing, petrochemicals, lawn mowing, aviation, bushfires and burning off. Motor vehicle exhaust fumes produce as much as 70% of the nitrogen oxides and 50% of the organic chemicals that form ozone. (Source: Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, http://www.environment.gov.au)

Seasonal adjustment

A means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals (e.g. Christmas and Easter).

State final demand

Conceptually identical to domestic final demand at the national level (the sum of private and government final consumption expenditure and private and public gross fixed capital formation).

National estimates are based on the concepts and conventions embodied in the System of National Accounts, 1993, but for regional (including state) estimates there is no separate international standard. Although national concepts are generally applicable to state accounts, there remain several conceptual and measurement issues that either do not apply or are insignificant nationally. Most of the problems arise in the measurement of gross state product for the transport and storage, communication services, and finance and insurance industries, where production often takes place across state borders. In these cases, a number of conceptual views can be applied to the allocation of value added by state. For more information, see chapter 28 of Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 5216.0).

Trend estimates

Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:
 - were available for work in the reference week;
 - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT Australian Capital Territory

ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations

ANZSIC06 Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification, 2006 Edition

ASCO Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
ASGC Australian Standard Geographical Classification

Aust. Australia B Borough

BoV Balance of Victoria

C City

CFA Country Fire Authority
CPI consumer price index

EPA Environment Protection Authority ERP estimated resident population

FT full-time

LGA local government area

ML megalitre

MMA Melbourne Metropolitan Area MSD Melbourne Statistical Division

MSR major statistical region n.e.c. not elsewhere classified

NEPM National Environment Protection Measure

NSW New South Wales NT Northern Territory

qtr quarter
Qld Queensland
RC Rural City
S Shire

SA South Australia SD statistical division

SEPP State Environment Protection Policy

SITC Standard International Trade Classification

SLA statistical local area SSD statistical subdivision

Tas. Tasmania Vic. Victoria

WA Western Australia

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